

# U. praises \$15,250,000 gift

## Sorenson endows Medical Center

6-9-89

**By JoAnn Jacobsen-Wells**

Deseret News medical writer

If it's the law of life that the giver receives more than those who get, James L. Sorenson is a wealthier man than even *Fortune* magazine reports.

The multimillionaire Thursday gave the University of Utah \$15,250,000 — the largest single gift given by an individual in the history of the state.

The donation was in the form of 250,000 shares of Abbott Laboratories stock, which has had a four-fold increase in value in the past eight years.

The gift, a permanent endowment to the U. Medical Center and School of Medicine, "will outlast the Wasatch Fault on which it is located," said an elated U. President Chase N. Peterson. "This is a continuation of the process of investment in things that are larger than any of us; things that are more immortal. This is not a completion of generosity, but an augmentation of generosity."

For the local entrepreneur, who was listed by *Fortune* magazine last year as the wealthiest man in Utah and one of the wealthiest men in



PHOTOGRAPHY/ KRISTAN JACOBSEN

**James Sorenson said the grant is a "payback" of sorts.**

America — worth an estimated \$360 million — the gift from Sorenson and his wife, Beverly, was a "payback" of sorts.

"When I began my career in the medical field more than 40 years ago, I found many people who were willing

to help me form and develop ideas and move them from vision to reality," he told friends and family who gathered at a reception in the University Hospital. "This contribution is to return part of that favor by helping to create the medical teachers and innovators of tomorrow."

Sorenson, founder of Sorenson Research, said the benefit of his family's donation will go beyond the University of Utah — to Holy Cross, LDS, and St. Mark's Hospitals — which profit from the U.'s strong medical teaching and research programs.

Nearly two-thirds of physicians practicing in Utah received all or part of their education and training at the University of Utah School of Medicine, which — along with the U. Medical Center — will now bear Sorenson's name.

The more than 200 research programs under way within the school cover the entire spectrum of science and medicine, with emphasis in such areas as human genetics, cancer and cardiology. Nearly 4,000 people are employed at the medical center, making it one of the largest enterprises in the state.

Dr. Cecil O. Samuelson, vice president for health sciences, emphasized that because the medical school receives only 10 to 15 percent of its sup-

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room rather  
et toward wait-

"If we can get implementation within our time frame (of) the agreement on conventional forces, that will take a tremendous amount of pressure off the Germans," Bush said.

Asked why he hadn't just picked up the telephone and called senior officials in Beijing — where he lived in the 1970s — he replied, "The line was busy. I couldn't get through."

na. But things must be changed.

move from group to group, we sense vision in the ranks. The Beijing students y to go back to their campuses and say leave in the next day or two. The stu- m the provinces want to stay until they their aims.

so get a feeling that while the student nt has widespread grass-roots organiza- he top, things are less certain. Leader- changed from day to day. And, al- the students have definite ideas about t go, they are less emphatic about who ace them to head the government.

particular moment, we sense a loss of um and see a weariness in some of the young medical student who has been at re helping to care for the sick says 000 have been moved to hospitals.

current of excitement is in the air, a history. Most of the students we talk to as only a beginning. They know their as not be reached overnight, but theirs is ommitment. "Maybe we have opened a little; maybe freedom will step in. time the improvements will come."

f course, was all before the tanks and

hese the students so brutally gunned ad their idealism been crushed by was a haunting thought.

ked with the horror was the echo of the one bespectacled young man. "No hat happens, our movement will not

## CHINA

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other protesters killed by the army, Chinese witnesses said.

A foreign source reported police said they were looking for "thieves" and led away a dozen students, whose identities were not known. It was the first time police had actively begun to sweep the campuses since the student unrest began in mid-April.

A banner declaring, "For every one that falls, 10,000 will rise up," was hung later at the school, a traditional hotbed of political activity. Students fled many other campuses in terror, returning to home provinces or going underground.

About 500 soldiers moved into a small stadium across the street from two major tourist hotels on Changan Avenue, deploying lines of guards and mounting machine gun emplacements at a nearby intersection.

Troops supported by police rolled down main roads in trucks, guns bristling in every direction. Late in the day, an enormous troop convoy rolled through the city's west, its objective unknown.

Soldiers were also on guard at the

Chinese Academy of Social Sciences building, a center of anti-government sentiment, Chinese sources said. Intellectuals have expressed fears of a sweeping purge.

But other sections of the city were free of checkpoints, and the army's strategy was not immediately clear. Large numbers of troops and tanks remained in an encampment in central Tiananmen Square, and some soldiers were billeted in the Kentucky Fried Chicken restaurant on the square's south side.

U.S. and other embassy officials said they been told in telephone calls from government officials that troops would be moving into neighborhoods around embassy quarters, but "don't be alarmed — they're there for your protection."

The Australian and Canadian embassies, among others, received telephone calls from Chinese Foreign Ministry officials warning: "The Ministry of Foreign Affairs suggests that going out at night should be avoided."

The warnings appeared to be aimed at limiting the number of foreigners on the streets at night as police continue a security sweep in which mass arrests of students, workers and others who took part in the two months of pro-democracy protests are feared.

# DONATION

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port from the state, "the importance of this and other private gifts cannot be overstated.

"With the help of generous people like the Sorensons, the J.L. Sorenson School of Medicine and the associated medical center will continue to develop as one of the premier education, research and patient care facilities in the nation," he said.

Under the agreement with Sorenson, the U. can have access to only a certain percentage of the stock each year. Although there are "no strings" attached to the gift, Samuelson said it will be used for endowed chairs and academic programs.

"This will help academics of the mind, and help men's souls and bodies as well," said Sorenson, who emphasized that "giving is therapy to the soul.

"It gives warmth to the giver. When you've been given so much,

there's a time to give back in a way that will help."

A longtime member of the U. Hospital Board, Sorenson was born in Rexburg, Idaho, and reared in California. In 1946, he began his rise in the medical products field, working 8½ years as a salesman for the Upjohn Company. He then co-founded his own firm, Deseret Pharmaceutical Co., which is now Deseret Medical Co.

He later sold his interest in the company and founded LeVoy's, a well-known clothing manufacturing firm.

In 1965, Sorenson resumed his research and development of disposable medical devices and in 1972 founded Sorenson Research, which became the industry leader in such products before it was sold to Abbott Laboratories in 1980.

He is now chief executive officer of Sorenson Development Inc., which has interests in several research and development companies. The couple has eight children and 35 grandchildren.



# Large Shanghai

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## No normal relations unless violence is halted, Bush says

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush said Thursday night the United States cannot return to "totally normal relations" with China unless that government ends violence against its own people and recognizes the validity of pro-democracy forces.

"Armed people don't shoot down unarmed students," Bush said of a weekend sweep by Chinese troops that killed hundreds if not thousands of demonstrators in Beijing.

At his first prime-time televised news conference since taking office, Bush also urged Iran's new leaders to help free American

